

96. (Amended) A method according to [any of]
claim[s] 90 [to 94] wherein the mammal has an HCV
infection.

Please cancel claims 15, 16, 18, 59, 63, 69, 79, 80, and
87.

REMARKS

The purpose of this preliminary amendment is to
rectify an apparent typographical error in the
specification and to remove existing multiple dependencies
from the claims. Specifically, at page 80, line 11, the
last nucleotides of the reverse oligonucleotide primer for
amplifying the E2 gene contain a typographical error, GLAG,
should be replaced with GTAG in keeping with the disclosure
in the specification at page 80, lines 5-9.

Favorable consideration leading to prompt allowance of
the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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